FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 JULY 1986

Syria-Lebanon

Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam told a 16 July Paris news conference that the Syrian presence in Lebanon is legitimate, Damascus radio reported. Legitimacy in Lebanon, as a parliamentary, democratic country, lies in the prime minister, he continued, noting that it was the Lebanese prime minister and defense minister who invited Syrian forces to provide security in the country. Syrian forces can be present anywhere and need nobody's permission, he added. Responding to these remarks, a Lebanese Forces declaration announced by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon stated that Khaddam's arguments contain political, constitutional, and legal fallacies intended to serve Damascus' interests. Likewise, former President Camille Sham'un stated that the "illegal" Syrian presence constitutes a violation of national sovereignty, Voice of Lebanon reported.

In a 17 July news conference in Paris, Khaddam said that President Hafiz al-Asad is giving the greatest attention to Lebanese affairs, and has ordered Syrian forces to redouble their efforts to release Western hostages, SANA reported. Khaddam denied the presence of hostages in areas under Syrian control, according to Radio Monte Carlo. Asked whether Syria has severed relations completely with the Lebanese president, Khaddam said Syrian relations with Lebanese figures are contingent upon those figures' commitment to the reconciliation process, Damascus radio reported. On a possible visit to Syria by U.S. Vice President George Bush, Khaddam stated that when the vice president asks to visit Syria, he will be welcomed, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

Syria

President Hafiz al-Asad received former PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad 17 July, according to Damascus radio, which reported no further details of the meeting.

Iraq-Saudi Arabia

First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan returned to Iraq after talks with King Fahd in Saudi Arabia, INA reported. Ramadan said the "cordial" talks dealt with the current Arab situation, the intensive, aggressive onslaught against the Arab countries, and the need for sincere efforts in strengthening Arab solidarity and developing joint Arab action against the "rancorous aggressors" who have exploited Arab divisions to achieve their expansionist aims, INA continued.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi warplanes raided Khark Island installations 17 July, according to a military communique cited by Voice of the Masses radio. A large maritime target near the Iranian coast was hit late the day before, the communique added. For its part, Iran said defensive actions continued 16 July, with intense firing being conducted in the northwestern operational theater, Tehran radio reported. A hospital in Abadan was shelled the same day, IRNA added.

Kuwait

Kuwaiti-USSR oil talks concluded 17 July in Kuwait, according to KUNA, which reported an official statement noting that the two countries agreed on trading petrochemical products, with Kuwait arranging a loan to the Soviet foreign trade bank. The chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations said the Soviet Union is ready to open its markets to industrial goods from OPEC member-countries to ease the burden of plunging oil prices on those nations' economies, the agency continued. Asked what he considered a fair price for oil, the Soviet official said OPEC and non-OPEC countries are negotiating a price structure between $19 and 24 per barrel, KUNA added.

Israel

An unnamed Soviet official is to visit Israel soon in order to inspect Soviet-owned property in the country, according to official sources cited by *Davar*. In earlier contacts the USSR informed Israel that it wants to conduct a thorough check of its property, the sources continued, which includes buildings of the Russian Orthodox church, *Davar* noted.

Libya

The JANA political editor condemned the "continuous" U.S. maneuvers in the Mediterranean, saying the main purpose of these exercises is to strike at the Soviet Union through aggression against Libya, according to JANA. The political editor described the maneuvers as a way of preparing international public opinion for the launching of an "explicit" war against Moscow, and of wearing down the resistance of progressive forces against U.S. aggressive aims.

PLO

Yasir 'Arafat attended a resumed session of the Fatah Central Committee, Baghdad Voice of PLO reported. The talks, which began last week in Tunis, will include all aspects of political developments, the radio continued. However, an informed source cited by KUNA disclosed that the session had been postponed due to 'Arafat's sudden departure for Algiers. Political analysts speculated that 'Arafat sought to avoid meeting the visiting French external affairs minister, KUNA added.

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DRA Delegation Returns From Zimbabwe; Views Visit
LD162101 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 16 Jul 86

[Text] Sawar Yurish, deputy minister of foreign affairs, who headed a delegation to Harare, the capital of Zimbabwe, has returned home and said the following in reply to the question of a BIA correspondent regarding the result of the visit of this delegation:

The delegation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs carried out an official and friendly visit to Zimbabwe to hold a series of talks concerning the eighth session of the heads of states or governments of the nonaligned countries which is due to convene in Harare at the end of August of this year, as well as regarding the broadening and expanding of bilateral relations between the DRA and the Republic of Zimbabwe.

During their stay in Harare the delegation met R. Mugabe, general secretary of the National Union Patriotic Front Party and prime minister of Zimbabwe, and passed on to him the warm friendly greetings and best wishes of Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, and also presented to him the message of Comrade Babrak Karmal, member of the PDPA Central Committee Political Bureau and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council. The delegation gave detailed information on facts on the internal situation and events around Afghanistan, the results of the Geneva talks between the DRA and Pakistan, the need for the establishemnt of political relations between the DRA and the Republic of Zimbabwe at the level of residential embassies, the role of the DRA in the Nonaligned Movement, and other issues of mutual interest and which have drawn R. Mugabe's attention.

He said that the Afghan delegation met the high-ranking authorities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Zimbabwe and had discussed the mutual issues of interest between the two countries.

The Afghan delegation at these meetings with the authorities of the Republic of Zimbabwe, in expressing solidarity with the Frontline countries of southern Africa, in particular the Republic of Zimbabwe, gave information about the role of Afghanistan in the Nonaligned Movement as one of the founders of this movement, and promised all-round cooperation of the DRA regarding its active participation in the coming conference of the heads of states or governments of the Nonaligned Movement which will soon be convened in Harare for the consolidation and further enhancement of the role of this movement.

Reciprocally, the Zimbabwe side appreciatively acknowledged the role of Afghanistan in the Nonaligned Movement and welcomed the participation of the high-ranking Afghan delegation in the coming session of the heads of states or governments of the Nonaligned Movement which will be held in Harare.

Sawar Yurish added that (?as a whole) we can assess the results of the visit of the Afghan delegation to Zimbabwe as constructive and useful. At this visit both sides have reached agreement in principle on establishing diplomatic relations between the two countries at the level of residential embassies, and they confirmed their mutual desire for the expansion of bilateral cooperation within the framework of the Nonaligned Movement.

Another Rebel Leader Sentenced to Death in Absentia
LD172024 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 17 Jul 86

[Text] The trial in absentia of the counterrevolutionary bands' ringleaders which was held in the presence of the representatives of Kabul city's toilers, at the people's repeated request, continued today.

At today's session the related file of Saleh Mohammad son of Fateh Mohammad known as Mullah Malang, a professional criminal belonging to so-called Hezbe-e Eslami-e Afghanistan, was taken under judicial assessment.

A BIA correspondent reported that the prosecutor presented the details of the crime related to Mullah Malang a dependent of so-called Hezb-e Eslami-e Mowlawi Khalis in Khandahar Province to the session.

Then eyewitnesses, such as Mawlawi Ghlam Mohammad Faqeri, head of Kandahar's Islamic affairs who had lost seven of his family members as a result of Mullah Malang crimes; Sher Mohammad and Sardar Mohammad, two inhabitants of Kandahar Province, who had lost parts of their bodies as a result of the explosion of mines planted by Mullah Malang's group; Abdol Qaher, an ex-member of the so-called Hezb-e Eslami-e Afghanistan who was forced to join the Islami band of Golboddin; Abdol Qayum, previously head of Mahaz-e Milli in Kandahar who had joined the revolutionary state, and Mohammad Zaher an inhabitant of Kandahar Province asserted what they had seen from Mullah Malang band's savage deeds.

The judicial panel of the DRA Special Revolutionary Court after all-round assessment and study convicted the accused Mullah Malang to punishment.

Saleh Mohammad son of Fateh Mohammad known as Mullang, ringleader of the so-called Hezb-e Islami-e Afghanistan in Kandahar Province, was considered guilty and the enemy of the tranquility of the Afghan people on charges of leading the counterrevolutionary persons, destroying property and public utility establishments, (?spoiling) people's religious rites ceremonies, using explosives against the people, committing manslaughter, cutting parts of peoples' bodies, imprisoning our innocent compatriots, kidnapping children and women, committing adultery and violating honor, plundering and [word indistinct] according to the DRA Penal Court Articles: 213, 214, 217, 347, 364, 395, 407, 416, 424, 427, 429, 433 and 455. He was sentenced to death by the judicial delegation of the DRA Special Revolutionary Court taking into account the DRA Penal Court Articles, 202, 203 and 156. He is well known for the killing of innocent people, the violating of people's honor, plundering of public property, opposing of the glorious April Revolution, spying for the infernal CIA organization, and enjoying a favorable position from the point of view of criminal Golboddin, this enemy of peace and tranquility of the Afghanistan people, and the chieftains of the White House.

Pakistani Minister's U.S. Visit Said 'Spoiling' Talks

LD170258 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0442 GMT 17 Jul 86

[Text] Kabul, July 16, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BAKHTAR writes: Mohammad Khan Junejo, prime minister of Pakistan, after his trip to the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG), arrived in Washington in a bid to acquire more military and economic assistance and new instructions for the intensification of the imperialistic, undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

The trip of Pakistani authorities to the United States and its allies on the threshold of the holding of talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan is indicative of the fact that the Islamabad administration acts as an instrument of Washington.

The Reagan administration never wants that the undeclared war against Afghanistan come to a close. The administration and its allies strive to militarise Ziaul Haq's Pakistan as the gendarme of the region parallel with the arming and equipping of the Afghan counter-revolutionaries.

Experience has shown that whenever high-ranking figures of the Reagan administration, Britain, FRG, China and other reactionary countries visited Pakistan or vice versa, the undeclared war against the DRA had assumed wider scope.

The political aims of Junejo's visit to FRG and the United States conform to the aims of Ronald Reagan stated recently at his meeting with the ringleaders of the Afghan counter-revolutionaries. The aim of Reagan is nothing else except spoiling the atmosphere of the talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan, intensification and continuation of the undeclared war and rendering more assistance to the counter-revolutionaries.

The sinister aims of Washington, FRG and [words indistinct] are indicative of the fact that the United States and its allies do not want the situation around Afghanistan to be politically solved.

Pakistan's Nuclear Weapons Program Examined

LD180620 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0454 GMT 18 Jul 86

[Text] Kabul, July 17, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BAKHTAR writes:

With the U.S. economic and technological assistance, Pakistan has already produced nuclear weapons or is on the threshold of its production.

This has been written by the observers of daily *Washington Post*. They persist that the clandestine nuclear program of Pakistan, constitutes one of the main subjects of talks of Junejo, prime minister of Pakistan, with Ronald Reagan and other U.S. authorities.

The design of nuclearisation of Pakistan aimed at preserving the U.S. interests in the south of Asia began by the CIA since 1950. With the collapse of the shah of Iran and the coming into power of Ronald Reagan in the United States, more attention was paid to the design.

The Pakistani nuclear scientists were trained in the United States from 1950 till 1960 and a large number of Pakistani nuclear experts were trained by the Washington Administration during the Reagan administration. Parallel with the training of Pakistani nuclear experts in the United States, Islamabad was extended the U.S. technology to enable it to produce nuclear weapons.

It is now clear that the Islamabad regime with the collusion of the Reagan administration has attained the production of nuclear weapons. The Reagan and Islamabad administrations have launched the hue and cry of the so-called peaceful use of nuclear power in a bid to camouflage the program of nuclear production of Pakistan.

The new military deal of Pakistan with Washington has not only caused the anxiety of the people of Pakistan, but it has also occasioned the deep concern of the people of the region.

Another aspect of the striving of Washington-Islambad for the camouflaging of the process of the production of nuclear weapons of Pakistan is that they want to distort the attention of the people of that country from the fact that the major portion of the Pakistani financial budget is spent for military ends. The people of Pakistan oppose the policy of militarisation of that country and the decrease of socio-economic programs in Pakistan.

Delhi Says Government To Boycott Commonwealth Games

BK181307 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 18 Jul 86

[Excerpt] Bangladesh has decided to boycott the Commonwealth Games in protest against Britain's unwillingness to impose sanctions against South Africa. Nine other countries have already pulled out of the games. [passage omitted on other countries]

Dhaka Commentary Views Ganges Water Issue

BK171329 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1540 GMT 16 Jul 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] Amidst wide expectation that the outstanding issues between India and Bangladesh would be settled amicably, Ershad-Rajiv summit took place in New Delhi in a friendly and cordial atmosphere. At the end of the 2-day talks, it was given out by Indian External Affairs Ministry spokesman that both sides expressed their firm resolve to find an amicable and a durable settlement of the Ganges water issue at an early date.

It is worth mentioning that India and Bangladesh share waters of nine common rivers, including the Ganges. Since these rivers originate from the Indian territory, India will override its influence in the water flow to the countries situated in the lower riparian. No doubt that Ganges water is of paramount importance to this country. Farakka barrage, which controls the water flow — particularly during the dry season — has proved to be a veritable obstacle to the easy flow of water to the northern districts of Bangladesh. It is known to both the parties concerned that controlling of the Ganges water flow through this barrage during the lean period has already brought an adverse effect on the agriculture of the affected northern region, and the ground water level in those areas has gone down substantially. So much so, some of the districts in that region cannot even produce optimum food grain and [words indistinct] signs of desertification in certain areas are already discernable.

In this backdrop, sharing of required water supply from the upper riparian is a life-and-death issue for this country. So long the quantum of water from the River Ganges was [words indistinct] on the strength of general agreement of the term of the latest one, expired last year. An interim agreement (?which was) arranged was, however, thrashed out at the ministerial-level meeting so that a breathing space is allowed to sort out the issue on permanent basis, keeping an eye on the optimum requirements of Bangladesh. It was such an exigency that [words indistinct] of a joint river commission to go into the details of availability of water of the nine common rivers and sharing of the same through mutual agreement. And the joint river commission, in turn, launched a joint committee of experts headed by respective irrigation secretaries. In a series of meetings, this committee reportedly made sufficient progress, and both sides exchanged and reconciled the data already placed before the committee. The next meeting of experts committee is scheduled to be held in New Delhi from August 4 to 6, and that would be preceeded by a meeting of technical experts.

The crux of the matter is that the Ganges water flow as released through Farakka barrage is far from the requirement of Bangladesh, and hence augmentation of river flow is the vital necessity for this country. In [words indistinct] foreign and irrigation ministers of Bangladesh accompanying the president also held discussions with their Indian counterparts in order to impress upon the Indian side the urgency of settling the water flow question. Augmentation of water flow during the lean period was decidedly given utmost importance by two of our ministers as they mooted the complex issue with their Indian counterparts.

It has to be clearly understood that insufficient flow of the Ganges water has already wrought havoc with agricultural production in Bangladesh. Time and again, this country tried to appeal to the good sense of Indian leaders to realize the gravity of the situation. But instead, in the name of experts committee and technical experts, India has adopted a dillydallying stand resulting in retardation of our efforts toward food self-sufficiency.

India seems to be oblivious of the fact that no country, even if situated in the upper riparian, can withdraw waters from a common river unitarily as per international law. In that perspective, it is hardly any scope for clouding the main issue by resorting to dillydallying tactics. For Bangladesh, it has become a source of grave concern, as the survival of its growing economy is now at stake. In the interest of good-neighborly relations and friendliness, it now (? depends) on India to change its present posture vis-a-vis sharing of the Ganges water. The data of availibility of water and some such technicalities should not stand on the way of an amicable and durable settlement of the (?important) issue. The ball is now in the court of Mr Rajiv Gandhi and he — and he alone — who can find a solution to the issue, judging it from a political perspective. Even the much publicized South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation spirit would call for such a concession from him for cementing the ties of friendship with us.

USSR's Kapitsa Meets Gandhi in Delhi 17 Jul

BK171609 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 17 Jul 86

[Text] The Soviet special envoy, Mr Mikhail Kapitsa, had a meeting with the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in New Delhi today. He also met the minister of state for external affairs, Mr Narayanan, and the foreign secretary, Mr Venkateswaran.

USSR To Assist in Production of Power Equipment

BK160943 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 16 Jul 86

[Text] The Soviet Union is prepared to provide technical assistance to India for production of equipment used in Soviet-assisted thermal and hydel power stations. In an interview to UNI, the Soviet deputy minister for energy and electricity, Mr Lopatin, said that the Soviet Union is also willing to assist India in running the commissioned project. Citing the (Bakreshwar) project in West Bengal and the hydel power station in Tehri in Uttar Pradesh as examples of India-Soviet collaboration, the minister said the two countries were presently engaged in prospective planning in the energy field.

Delhi Views State of Relations With Bangladesh

BK171455 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1340 GMT 17 Jul 86

[Commentary by S.C. Bhatt entitled "Indo-Bangladesh Relations"]

[Text] President Ershad of Bangladesh has just completed a 3-day friendly visit to India. A number of bilateral issues were discussed between him and the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and between the senior ministers accompanying him and their Indian counterparts. The question of regional cooperation through the agency of the recently formed SARC — South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation — also came up during the talks.

General Ershad was able to fulfill a religious wish by praying at the shrines of great Sufi saints — Nizamuddin Auliah in Delhi and Khaja Moinuddin Chishti at Ajmere in central India. Not only Muslims but followers of other faiths go to these shrines seeking spiritual solace and redress of wordly concerns.

No two countries are so close to each other as India and Bangladesh, as President Giani Zail Singh remarked at the banquet he hosted for the Bangladesh president. They share many things in common, including the beautiful Bengali language, — the poetry of Rabindra Nath Tagore and Nazrul Islam and the composite culture of the Indian subcontinent — a common climate, and extensive border.

India played a memorable role in the liberation war of Bangladesh. The euphoria that followed the success of that war in December 1971, however, did not last long, and the differences appeared over some issues arising mainly from the closeness between the two neighbors. For some years the relations drifted as Bangladesh herself underwent a few convulsions and searched for a new identity. Then a new phase began, and relations for the past few years have been on a matured basis. All the while, India has tried her best to smoothen the rough edges and treat Bangladesh as a neighbor of much importance to her policy of friendly ties with the neighbors.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi began his tenure as prime minister with a vow of a strong desire for better relations with the neighbors, including Bangladesh. When Bangladesh was struck by a natural calamity in the form of a destructive cyclone last year, Mr Gandhi lost no time in visiting the country in the spirit of calling on a neighbor in difficulty. The promise he made them that India will help in building cyclone-proof shelters on the worst affected Urir Char Island has been kept at a cost of 15 million rupees. India also extends scholarships to some 70 Bangladesh students for education in Indian universities, including engineering and technology courses. Officers of the Bangladesh Armed Forces are also trained in Indian military academies. Herself a country which is far from being affluent, India believes in extending assistance and cooperation to other developing countries, and Bangladesh is one of the foremost beneficiaries.

But differences arise over issues like the sharing of the waters of the River Ganges, which flows from India into Bangladesh and then into the Bay of Bengal, and over insurgency movements and influx of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh into the neighboring states of India. These were examined during President Ershad's visit in a spirit of frankness and for finding a solution.

On the insurgency question, both sides agreed that they would not encourage it against the other. This is relevent because the Mizo rebels were operating mostly from Bangladesh and it is from there that they will now come overground in terms of the Mizoram accord signed recently between the Indian Government and the Mizo National Front. The TNV — the Tribal National Volunteers — of Tripura State in India are also finding shelter in Bangladesh. (Allied) to this is the question of the Chakma tribals of the Chittagong Hills in Bangladesh. Some 18,000 of the Chakmas, who are Buddhist, have fled to India in the past few months. There is fighting against the inhabiting of their hills by people from other parts of Bangladesh, and this has brought them into conflict with the Bangladesh Army. Now Bangladesh has agreed during the recent Delhi talks that the Chakmas will be allowed to return to their homes.

On the issue of the Ganges waters, the old agreement on the sharing of waters has already been renewed as a result of Mr Rajiv Gandhi's initiative last November. The agreement will remain in force until January 1988. The interim time is to be used by both countries to find a joint solution to the question of augmenting the dry-weather flow of water into the Ganges. This is a long-term and somewhat difficult issue, and only a sincere and persistent effort by both countries can help find a solution. The Ershad visit has carried forward the process initiated by Mr Rajiv Gandhi last year to solve differences through a friendly and frank exchange of views. The dialogue has to be kept up so that the issues are tackled and the relations are further strengthened.

Ershad Cited on Waters Talks

BK170539 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 17 Jul 86

[Text] President Ershad of Bangladesh has said that the talks on the Ganges waters have made much progress. He was speaking to newsmen during a brief halt at Calcutta Airport last night while on his way back to Dhaka after a 3-day visit to India. He said this time our approach to the problem is very much different and a solution is expected to be found before the nexte SARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] summit in November. General Ershad described his talks with Indian leaders as very fruitful.

'Miscreants' From Pakistan Fired on at Border

BK171606 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 17 Jul 86

[Text] One person was killed when Border Security Force [BSF] jawans [soldiers] fired at four miscreants from Pakistan who tried to cross the Indo-Pakistan border in the (Rorkharamwala) area of Amritsar yesterday. According to a release of the BSF in New Delhi today, three of his accomplices managed to escape back into Pakistan following the encounter.

Meanwhile, another extremist has surrendered to the BSF in Dera Baba Nanak area.

NEPAL

Parliament Passes Bill To Meet Financial Obligations

BK161204 Hong Kong AFP in English 1052 GMT 16 Jul 86

[Text] Katmandu, July 16 (AFP) — Nepal's Parliament has adopted an accounts bill for fiscal 1986-87, enabling the Shrestha government to meets its day-to-day obligations until a new budget is adopted, officials said.

Pro-government members teamed up with royal appointees to the 140-seat national Panchayat (Parliament) to pass the accounts bill in a voice vote Tuesday.

Passage of the bill means the government can pay routine administrative expenses and meet its civil service payroll before the new budget is passed in the next few weeks.

At least 74 MP's took part in a six-day debate on the 13.05-billion-rupee budget (624.5 million U.S. dollars), which puts an accent on development projects while increasing defence and police spending.

Some members, including former Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa, voiced opposition to the budget, saying it was "highly inflated" and too ambitious for this landlocked Himalayan kingdom.

One member of Parliament, Deepak Bohara, tore up a copy of the proposed budget page-by-page and said it provided no plan for relief for Nepal's peasants and poorer classes.

SRI LANKA

Political Parties Conference Begins 18 July

BK181125 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 18 Jul 86

[Text] A plenary session of the Political Parties Conference commenced this morning in Colombo. Secretary to the conference, Mr Felix Dias Abesinghe, told the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation that the five committees that were appointed will be presented at the session. After the plenary session President J.R. Jayewardene will once again meet the TULF delegation and hold talks on the proposals. Further meeting with the TULF delegation will be held next week.

Mr Abesinghe added that the TULF had discussions lasting an hour with the president yesterday.

Jayewardene Responds to SLFP Demand on Elections

BK171149 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 17 Jul 86

[Text] President J.R. Jayewardene, in a reply to a letter from the leader of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party [SLFP], Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike, has stated that he (?had placed) the proposals of the SLFP with regard to the provincial councils before the participants of the political parties conference. With regard to Mrs Bandaranaike's suggestion to hold the general election, President Jayewardene said that he would consider that in 1989.

The leader of the SLFP has written to Mr Jayewardene regarding the government's new proposals in a letter dated 15 July 1986.

Delhi Reports 13 Persons Killed by Air Force

BK180308 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 18 Jul 86

[Text] Reports from northern Sri Lanka say that at least 13 persons were killed near Mullaittivu when the bus in which they were traveling was hit by a bomb from an Air Force plane. Seventeen others were seriously injured. The bus was going from Mullaittivu to Vavuniya.

Meanwhile, the leader of the TULF delegation, Mr Amirthalingam, told our Colombo correspondent that as killings of the civilians continue, the TULF is increasingly getting under tremendous pressure. Mr Amirthalingam said the delegation has impressed upon the Sri Lankan president to take urgent action to stop the killings.

Mr Jayewardene is reported to have told him that he will take action and said that the joint operational command chief, Lieutenant General Cyril Ranatunga, has already been sent to Trincomalee.

7 Terrorists Killed in Mullaittivu 17 July

BK181127 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 18 Jul 86

[Text] Security forces located a terrorist base at (Naginthani) in the Mullaittivu District yesterday. Security sources told LANKA PUWATH that the troops came under fire from the base and the security forces returned fire, killing seven terrorists, including a female. The troops recovered 81 rifles with 150 rounds of ammunition. Hand grenades and [words indistinct] raid at the terrorist base.

AFP Says 67 Tamils Killed in Refugee Camp

BK171615 Hong Kong AFP in English 1601 GMT 17 Jul 86

[Text] Colombo, July 17 (AFP) — Attackers believed to be soldiers shot dead 67 Tamil civilians in a refugee camp near the northeastern Sri Lankan city of Trincomalee, a leader of the main Tamil political party said here on Tursday.

Appapillai Amirthalingam, general secretary of the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), told *Agence France-Presse* that some 150 civilians, mostly Tamils, had been killed since his TULF delegation arrived in Colombo on Saturday for talks about a government plan for a political solution to Tamil separatism.

Meanwhile, the government said the security forces had shot dead 44 Tamil separatist guerrillas in fighting in the northeast in the past two days.

The TULF leader said that women and children had been among the 67 victims of Wednesday's attack on the refugee camp, located near Muttur.

Mr Amirthalingam said his party had verified reports of the attack with all possible sources.

Information about the attack has been passed to President Junius Jayewardene, Mr Amirthalingam said.

So far there has been no government comment on the TULF leader's accusation.

Mr Amirthalingam said that troops had also attacked a village at Adampan in the northwestern district of Mannar on Sunday, killing 53 persons.

On Monday the National Security Ministry said 18 Tamil separatists had been killed when they attacked soldiers providing cover for a resupply operation in the area.

In a latter incident, six soldiers were killed and five others were wounded when a landmine that they were trying to defuse exploded, the ministry said.

The TULF leader added that home guards had killed nine Tamils and two Sinhalese on Monday at Pavat Kulam in the northern district of Vavuniya.

Meanwhile, the government's information department said troops had killed 27 Tamil separatist guerrillas that had attacked them on Wednesday at (Pathithidal) in the Trincomalee District.

Earlier, the National Security Ministry had said 16 Tamil separatists, including one woman, had been killed in the battle.

Troops killed another seven guerrillas that attacked them at Nedunkeni in the northeastern district of Mullaittivu, sources in the security forces said.

Later on Thursday Mr Amirthalingam met Mr Jayewardene and other government ministers to discuss the president's proposals to end Tamil separatism peacefully by devolving power to elected provincial councils.

Tamil guerrillas are fighting for a separate state in the largely Tamil north and east of this Sinhala-dominated country.

Mr Amirthalingam said before the meeting that the killing of civilians and the detention of Tamils were issues he would take up with Mr Jayewardene.

Earlier in Colombo, a Canadian citizen of Sri Lankan origin was acquitted of charges of sedition after a two-day trial.

Supreme Court Judge K. Viknarajah acquitted Paul Nallanayagam, president of the Citizens' Committee of Kalmunai, of charges of conspiring to incite feelings of disaffection and hatred against the government.

The judge said the prosecution had failed to prove its case.

Romanian Energy Minister Concludes Visit, Departs

LD171212 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Jul 86

[Excerpt] The Romanian energy minister, after visiting Iran for several days and holding talks with our country's officials, left Tehran this morning and was seen off by Mr Banki, the energy minister. Before departure, in an interview with a correspondent of the Central News Unit, he thanked the Islamic Republic of Iran for its hospitality toward his delegation and said: In the course of this trip and during our meetings with officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran, we exchanged views on issues of mutual interest and new possibilities for the expansion of cooperation between the two countries; and during a meeting with Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the Islamic president of Iran, a friendly message of President Nicolae Ceausescu was submitted to his excellency.

The Romanian energy minister added: During the meeting with officials of the Energy Ministry, some decisions were made on details of the existing projects under implementation and ways of increasing activity to finish the works within the agreed time period. In conclusion, he expressed delight for the possibility of further expansion of the existing relations and friendship between Iran and Romania. [passage omitted]

Khomeyni Answers Query on Use of Tax Funds

LD172139 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 17 Jul 86

[Text] The Secretariat of Imam Khomeyni has announced: Following a query about aids granted from the Imam's Share [Islamic tax system]to assist in building high schools and a permit from the imam to use a third of the above funds for that purpose, some form of uncertainty has come about which has resulted in telephone calls and letters. The correspondents ask for clarification on whether this decree is limited to those who have already obtained permits to use a third of the above funds in specific cases or, if it is a permit to allow everyone to use a third of the Imam's Share for such ends.

The education and training minister has written to the imam. His excellency has answered:

In the name of God, as described earlier, those permitted to use part of the Imam's Share are allowed to personally, and only at occasions specified by religion, assist the Education and Training Ministry in the procurement of educational equipment. There is hope that the esteemed minister and his officers will be successful in this great cause.

[Signed] Tir 26 [17 July 86] Ruhollah Musavi-Khomeyni

Montazeri Warns Diplomats of 'Enemies of Islam'

LD171342 Tehran IRNA in English 1333 GMT 17 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, July 17, IRNA — Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri advised Wednesday a visiting group of Iranian diplomats serving in Arab and African countries to "thwart poisonous propaganda of enemies of Islam."

The ayatollah said the diplomats should make available Islamic books for interested people and government officials in the countries of their assignment.

"Our nation has stood firm against various plots without having relied on Eastern or Western powers," Montazeri said. "Iranian people are determined to achieve independence and to cut off their dependence on foreign powers."

The future spiritual leader of the Islamic Revolution said several heads of Islamic states have been humiliated by the foreign countries on which they relied. "It is a pity, they should have depended on their own nations, he said. [quotation mark as received]

Montazeri said it was necessary for construction jihad to make available its revolutionary experiences in agricultural field to countries whose agriculture have not been allowed to make progress by colonialist powers. He called for the despatch of construction jihad agriculture experts to these countries.

Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati was present at the meeting.

Iraqi Official Ousted Following 'Plot' Against Saddam

LD172226 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 17 Jul 86

[Text] Na'im Haddad, previously member of the Command Council of the Iraqi Ba'th Party and deputy prime minister of the Iraqi regime, who has been dismissed of all his posts, was evicted from the Command Council of Iraq yesterday.

A report by the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq indicates that the council has passed the responsibility of ousting Haddad to Saddam Husayn who chairs the Command Council of Iraq. Na'im Haddad was one the most influential members of the Ba'thist-Zionist Party of Iraq since it began its rule 18 years ago.

No report of his fate has been received. Saddam had spoken last week of a number of traitors who had participated in a plot. It is noted that these developments and further waves of arrests coincide with the victory of the Islamic fighters in their Karbala-l operations.

Situation 'More Critical Than Ever'

LD171029 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0740 GMT 17 Jul 86

[Text] The changes in the leadership of Iraq's Ba'th Party and the dismissal of a number of old pawns of the party are among the sensational reports carried by world mass media. The changes were made after a number of political-military figures in Iraq were arrested for plotting a coup d'etat against Saddam. The changes were stepped up with the dismissal of Na'im Haddad, the Iraqi deputy prime minister.

In the opinion of informed military-political sources, the physical elimination of individuals is an old method used by Saddam

against his rivals. At the same time, the dismissal of well-known Ba'thist pawns arose from the repeated disappointments of the rulers of Baghdad, disappointments that occasionally occur in the military, political, and economic arenas and leave their mark through political account settling in the Iraqi administration.

Political observers find a definite connection between Baghdad's military defeats and political changes in the leadership of the Ba'th Party. For example, after the ground forces if Islam broke the siege of Abadan, a conflict appeared among the leaders of Iraq's Ba'th Party, and, after Khorramshahr was liberated, Al-Faw fell and Mehran was recaptured, the conflict among the rulers of Baghdad reached a peak, with the execution of distinguished Iraqi generals and the dismissals in the Ba'th Party cadres reaching new heights.

Meanwhile, the conflicts that led to the changes in Iraq's ruling apparatus also have political-economic motivation. The increasing infamy of the Iraqi regime on the international scene, that regime's inability to repay astronomical debts and its anxiety about the reduction or stoppage of foreign aid leave their mark on the relations among the rulers of Baghdad. Each rival wing and long-serving Ba'thist pawn tries to blame the other for the great political, economic, and military defeats to save themselves from the grave repercussions of these failures, repercussions ranging from honorable discharges to disappearances and executions of individuals.

Saddam's recent remarks about a group of traitors infiltrating the hierarchy of the Ba'th Party mean therefore, that the dictator of Baghdad is seeking new sacrifices and another bloodbath is being planned by the executioners ruling Baghdad.

In the meantime, military-political observers are right in describing Iraq's internal situation as more critical than ever and assessing the ruling regime of Iraq to be more vulnerable than ever, especially because the combatants of Islam are preparing to deal more decisive, more crushing, and heavier blows to the dispondent foe to finish him off.

On the other hand, the fears of Baghdad's rulers about the grave fate awaiting them will not allow this self-serving regime to prepare elaborate plans for marking the so-called national festivities of Iraq as in previous years. The Ba'thist leaders have constantly tried to create an extravaganza on the anniversary of their coup d'etat against the regime of Abd al-Rahman 'Arif and their usurping of power in Iraq, making today out to be a day of national festivities for the Muslim people of Iraq.

Today, 17 July — the 18th year since the establishment of the fascist regime in Iraq — one can, however, be more expectant than ever of the certain downfall of that regime.

Arab Diplomat Interviewed on Issue

LD171732 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 17 Jul 86

[Text] Following the successful operations of Karbala-1 which resulted in the liberation of Mehran, informed sources declared: This victory has given rise to a lot of problems for the Zionist Iraqi regime and, taking note of the low morale of Baghdad's rulers, it will be impossible for this regime to disengage itself from these problems in the near future.

In this connection an Arab diplomat who has recently been to Baghdad and is residing in Beirut at present, in an interview with the reporter of the *Islamic Republic News Agency* (IRNA), stated:

In the course of the past few days the city of Al-Najaf has been exposed to some disturbances against the regime of Saddam. He added that the heavy casualties of Iraqi military forces in the Karbala 1 operations have resulted in an increase of popular protests against the warmongering policies of the Iraqi regime. He also stated that in the course of the past few days, sporadic demonstrations took place in the city of Al-Thawrah, in the districts of Bahgdad, against the regime of Saddam. This Arab diplomat noted that in the Karradah-Maryam in Baghdad, he himself witnessed officials wiping off and removing anti-state slogans from walls. This is one of the affluent residential areas of Baghdad and most foreign subjects also live in this area.

This Arab diplomat who wanted to remain anonymous also noted that following the victory of the combatants of Islam in the Karbala 1 operatons, the Baghdad regime is also facing many financial problems. In conclusion, he also pointed out to this point; that with the victory of the Iranian combatants, the Zionist Iraqi regime is making a last ditch attempt to give the appearance of favoring Islam.

Message Cites Iraq's 'Downfall'

LD172218 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
2030 GMT 17 Jul 86

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Mahmud Hashemi, spokesman of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Republic of Iraq, has issued a message on the occasion of the eve of the anniversary of the shameful coup d'etat of July 1968 carried out by the Ba'th Party in Iraq. The message states in part: 17 July 1968 is a reminder of a shameful coup d'etat which was carried out by the mercenaries of world arrogance and the scroungers of the Ba'th Party, ending with the loss of freedom and independence for the Muslim people of Iraq. Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi added: By glancing at the history of the crimes of the mercenaries ruling over Baghdad, notably the killing of thousands of people and clergymen and the savage expulsion of 1 million Iraqi Muslims from their country, the depth of the crimes committed against the people of Iraq during the length of the Aflaqites' rule can be grasped.

Another part of this message states: Iraq, under the Aflaqite Saddamist regime, has become a vast prison in which millions of the Muslims of this country are being tortured or annihilated. The spokesman of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq, added in his message: It is up to the Muslims of Iraq, at this sensitive juncture in the history of Iraq's Islamic movement, to extend their global struggles and activities against the Aflaqite beasts inside and outside that country, and to punish these criminals for their crimes, since the Saddamist regime, following the glorious operations of the combatants of Islam and

the heavy blows it has received by the Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries inside the country, is in a state of serious disintegration and downfall.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

IRGC Commander on Karbala-1 Outcome

LD180854 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 18 Jul 86

[Excerpts] During a television program last night, the commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] described the outcome of the Karbala-1 operations. Referring to the sensitive position of the Qalawizan Heights, which were liberated in the course of these operations, he said: With the liberation of these heights, defense of Mehran is easy and conditions are more favorable for attacking Basra and Baghdad. [passage omitted] He added: The enemy suffered 7,000 casualties and 1,500 of their troops were taken as prisoners. The combatants of Islam destroyed 100 enemy tanks and personnel carriers and captured intact 70 of their modern tanks and personnel carriers, which are now used in the battlefields against the aggressive enemy.

In conclusion, the commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps named the current year as the year of increasing pressure on the Zionist enemy and said: The combatants of Islam, by relying on God, have decided to continue the war relentlessly and by reducing the interval between each operation they intend to not give the aggressive enemy any opportunity to rebuild and regroup his forces and are going to deliver the final blow on the enemy.

Staff Command on Defensive Action

LD171811 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Jul 86

[Text] According to a report issued by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, defensive action by the Islamic forces continued yesterday in the form of heavy weaponry exchanges. In Hajj 'Umran and Panjwin, in the northwestern operational sector, intense exchanges of fire continued. Our forces inflicted heavy damage on enemy positions, fortifications and supply routes, killing and injuring a number of the Iraqis.

In Marivan operational region the Islamic forces silenced enemy fire and maintained control of [word indistinct] over the enemy, firing on many enemy defensive positions with heavy mortar and artillery fire and inflicting heavy casualties and damage on the Iraqi forces and positions.

In exchanges of fire in the western sector, the mighty forces of Islam pounded concentrations of Iraqi forces, destroying a number of light and heavy weaponry emplacements and killing or injuring a number of servicemen. Our forces fired on enemy patrols in Sumar region, inflicting some damage and losses.

In Mehran region, our ever-aware antiaircraft units prevented the intrusion of Iraqi aircraft into the above region.

In the southern sector, Talaiyeh witnessed heavy exchanges of fire, while our forces defended their positions, dispatched patrols, and executed artillery and mortar fire on enemy positions, fortifications and supply columns, and halted enemy infantry forces fortifying their positions.

The Islamic Republic of Iran naval forces, protecting air and sea boundaries of the coastal waters of the Persian Gulf and maintaining their continued control over the Strait of Hormuz carried out defensive missions in the region.

Gendarmerie forces in their operational areas retaliated by executing precise and effective fire on the enemy positions and supply vehicles, thus silencing enemy fire, halting Saddamists' engineering missions and redeployment of enemy vehicles, killing and injuring a number of Iraqi servicemen, as well as destroying two Iraqi forces' ammunition depots, a number of slit trenches and six vehicles.

In the past week Abadan came under sporadic artillery and long-range weaponry fire of the Iraqi forces, which inflicted some damage to shops and houses.

Iraq Shells Abadan Hospital

LD171805 Tehran IRNA in English 1720 GMT 17 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, July 17, IRNA — A hospital in Abadan, Khuzestan Province was heavily shelled by Iraqi forces Wednesday as a result of which a patient was wounded and parts of the building were set ablaze and damaged.

Fire was extinguished after five hours by fire fighters.

Hospitalized patients were transferred to safe places immediately after the shelling.

Iraq Shells Piranshah; 1 Killed

LD171803 IRNA in English 1100 GMT 17 Jul 86

[Text] Bakhtaran, July 17, IRNA — One Iranian civilian was martyred and many others wounded in Piranshah, west Azerbaijan Province, Wednesday when it was hit by Iraqi long range artillery fire.

Several residential units were also damaged in the shelling.